

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): An inflatable curtain comprising:

a first panel having at least one first pleat formed by doubling a portion of the material of the first panel back upon itself twice such that there are two folds in the material of the first panel, the first pleat constructed such that when the inflatable curtain is inflated with inflation gas, the first pleat opens into at least one first bulge that changes the deployment trajectory of the inflatable curtain; and

a second panel that is attached to the first panel, wherein the inflatable curtain is designed to be positioned along a vehicle roof rail.

Claim 2 (original): An inflatable curtain as in claim 1 wherein the first bulge is designed to interact with a portion of a vehicle interior.

Claim 3 (original): An inflatable curtain as in claim 1 wherein the first pleat opens into the first bulge prior to the curtain being completely filled with the inflation gas.

Claim 4 (previously presented): An inflatable curtain as in claim 1 wherein the first bulge is designed such that the deploying inflatable curtain will clear a trim panel on a vehicle interior.

Claim 5 (cancelled).

Claim 6 (original): An inflatable curtain as in claim 1 wherein the first panel is attached to the second panel via sewing.

Claim 7 (original): An inflatable curtain as in claim 1 wherein the first panel is attached to the second panel via adhesive bonding.

Claim 8 (original): An inflatable curtain as in claim 1 wherein the first pleat opens downwards when the inflatable curtain is installed onto a vehicle interior.

Claim 9 (original): An inflatable curtain as in claim 1 wherein the first pleat opens upwards when the inflatable curtain is installed onto a vehicle interior.

Claim 10 (original): An inflatable curtain as in claim 1 wherein the first pleat spans the length of the first panel.

Claim 11 (original): An inflatable curtain as in claim 1 further comprising at least one second pleat added to the second panel, the second pleat constructed such that when the inflatable curtain inflates, the second pleat opens into at least one second bulge.

Claim 12 (original): An inflatable curtain as in claim 11 wherein the second bulge changes the deployment trajectory of the inflatable curtain.

Claim 13 (original): An inflatable curtain as in claim 11 wherein the second pleat is formed by folding the second panel.

Claim 14 (original): An inflatable curtain as in claim 1 wherein the first pleat spans a portion of the length of the first panel.

Claim 15 (currently amended): An inflatable curtain comprising:
a first panel;
a second panel that is attached to the first panel; and

at least one first pleat added to the first panel and formed by doubling a portion of the material of the first panel back upon itself twice such that there are two folds in the material of the first panel, and at least one second pleat added to the second panel and formed by doubling a portion of the material of the second panel back upon itself twice such that there are two folds in the material of the second panel, the first pleat and the second pleat constructed such that when the inflatable curtain is inflated with inflation gas, the first pleat opens into at least one first bulge and the second pleat opens into at least one second bulge, the first pleat and the second pleat positioned such that the first bulge and the second bulge change the deployment trajectory of the inflatable curtain, wherein the inflatable curtain is designed to be positioned along a vehicle roof rail.

Claim 16 (original): An inflatable curtain as in claim 15 wherein the first bulge and the second bulge are designed to interact with a portion of a vehicle interior.

Claim 17 (original): An inflatable curtain as in claim 15 wherein the first pleat and the second pleat open into the first bulge and the second bulge prior to the curtain being completely filled with the inflation gas.

Claim 18 (previously presented): An inflatable curtain as in claim 15 wherein the first bulge is designed such that the deploying inflatable curtain will clear a trim panel on a vehicle interior.

Claim 19 (cancelled)

Claim 20 (cancelled)

Claim 21 (original): An inflatable curtain as in claim 15 wherein the first panel is attached to the second panel via sewing.

Claim 22 (original): An inflatable curtain as in claim 15 wherein the first panel is attached to the second panel via adhesive bonding.

Claim 23 (original): An inflatable curtain as in claim 15 wherein the first pleat opens upwards and the second pleat opens downwards when the inflatable curtain is installed onto a vehicle interior.

Claim 24 (original): An inflatable curtain as in claim 15 wherein the first pleat opens downwards and the second pleat opens upwards when the inflatable curtain is installed onto a vehicle interior.

Claim 25 (original): An inflatable curtain as in claim 15 wherein the first pleat is aligned with the second pleat.

Claim 26 (original): An inflatable curtain as in claim 15 wherein the first pleat is offset from the second pleat.

Claim 27 (original): An inflatable airbag as in claim 16 wherein the first pleat spans the length of the first panel and the second pleat spans the length of the second panel.

Claim 28 (original): An inflatable airbag as in claim 16 wherein the first pleat spans a portion of the length of the first panel and the second pleat spans a portion of the length of the second panel.

Claim 29 (original): An inflatable airbag as in claim 16 wherein the first pleat spans a portion of the length of the first panel.

Claim 30 (original): An inflatable curtain as in claim 16 wherein the second pleat spans a portion of the length of the second panel.

Claim 31 (currently amended): A method for changing the deployment trajectory of an inflatable curtain comprising:

obtaining an inflatable curtain comprising a first panel and a second panel, the second panel being attached to the first panel, wherein the inflatable curtain is designed to be positioned along a vehicle roof rail; and

adding at least one first pleat to the first panel, the first pleat formed by doubling a portion of the material of the first panel back upon itself twice such that there are two folds in the material of the first panel, the first pleat constructed such that when the inflatable curtain inflates, the first pleat opens into at least one first bulge that changes the deployment trajectory of the inflatable curtain.

Claim 32 (previously presented): A method as in claim 31 wherein the first bulge is designed to interact with a portion of a vehicle interior.

Claim 33 (original): A method as in claim 31 wherein the first pleat opens into the first bulge prior to the curtain being completely inflated.

Claim 34 (previously presented): A method as in claim 31 wherein the first bulge is designed such that the deploying inflatable curtain will clear a trim panel on a vehicle interior.

Claim 35 (cancelled)

Claim 36 (currently amended): A method as in claim 31 wherein the inflatable curtain further comprises at least one second pleat added to the second panel the second pleat formed by arranging the second panel such that only a portion of the material of the second panel is doubled back upon itself ~~and is then secured in place~~, the second pleat constructed such that when the inflatable curtain inflates, the second pleat opens into at least one second bulge.

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Claim 37 (original): A method as in claim 36 wherein the second bulge changes the deployment trajectory of the inflatable curtain.

Claim 38 (cancelled)